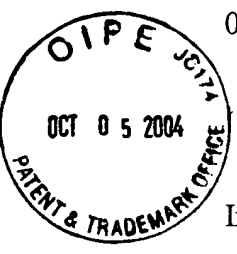


*Bhs*



00684.003312

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
Masahiko YOKOTA et al.	)	Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/050,852	)	Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: January 18, 2002	)	
For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS	)	October 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese documents, along with an English-language abstract therefor are enclosed.

Applicants have received a European Search report that issued on July 2, 2004, in connection with a counterpart application. The European Search report lists two documents, namely, U.S. Patent No. 5,610,731 and JP 7-288656. Both of those documents were cited in this application in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 15, 2002. However, the European Search Report also lists JP 3-364316, JP 7-327109, and U.S. Patent No. 5,734483 as being in the same family. Accordingly, those documents are being disclosed herein. The European Search Report is also listed on the Form PTO-1449, and a copy is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

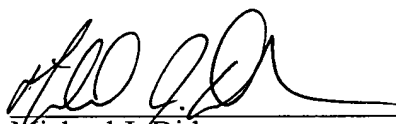
It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants submit that no fee is due in connection with this paper, inasmuch as a first Office Action on the merits has not yet been mailed. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee that may be deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Didas", written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Didas  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 55,112

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